

Mayor Chuck Cahn

Township Council

David Fleisher, President Sara Lipsett, Vice President N. John Amato Jim Bannar Melinda Kane Susan Shin Angulo Jacquelene Silver

May 23, 2013

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

As you know by now, the Woodcrest Country Club bankruptcy auction was held on Monday, May 20, and the winning bidder was the First Montgomery Group, a real estate developer based out of Marlton.

Together with Camden County, we put forth our strongest efforts to acquire the property, but unfortunately, we simply could not match First Montgomery's \$10.1 million bid, which was nearly \$4 million above the property's appraised value.

Although the auction is over, our commitment to preserve this property is not. Over the course of the last few months, we have made it clear that we want to see the property maintained as open space, as either a golf course or for other recreational uses.

First Montgomery has said that it will reopen the property as a semi-private golf course – plans that give us a sense of cautious optimism that this developer will respect the community's wishes and preserve this land. However, First Montgomery's long-term intentions and their current plans for the remaining balance of the property – more than 60 acres – have not been publicly stated.

Therefore, we want to assure you that our position has not changed: We do not want this property developed in any way, and we are steadfastly opposed to any change in zoning.

This property represents more than 155 acres of historically significant and environmentally sensitive land. It must be forever preserved and protected, and we, as Mayor and Council of this community, will do everything in our power to ensure that it is.

If you have any questions or concerns, our door is always open. E-mail us at <u>MayorCahn@chtownship.com</u> and <u>DFleisher@chtownship.com</u>, or call the Mayor's Office at (856) 488-7878.

We have heard from many residents who strongly agree with our position. We are in this together, and we appreciate your support.

Very truly yours,

Chuck Cahn **Mayor**

David Fleisher
Council President